Children's Liturgy Template

Title -Liturgical Date e.g. nth Sunday in ordinary time Year (A/B/C) calendar date

Introduction

The introduction should refer to the key points of the Gospel of the day. It would also be appropriate to refer to and briefly explain the particular liturgical season e.g. Advent or Lent or special Feast Day where relevant. In addition in Advent, for example, we also explain the Advent wreath.

Make the Sign of the Cross - a sign of the love that God has for us

For young children especially, it helps to demonstrate and practice how to do this correctly.

<u>Light the Candles</u> (an adult lights the candles)

Penitential Act

Ask the children to think about how they have behaved in the past week and if they have been kind to each other, helpful to parents, brothers, sisters, listened to their teachers etc.

Lead the children in singing the "sorry song"

Gloria – Except in ADVENT or LENT

You may choose to say or sing an appropriate adaptation of the Gloria from any Children's Liturgy resource.

Gospel Acclamation

You may choose an appropriate song from your chosen CL resource

"Let us stand to welcome today's Gospel"

Gospel

Select the correct Gospel verses from the Children's Lectionary.

"A reading from the Holy Gospel according to N"

Explain and demonstrate - Make three crosses : one on your forehead

one on your lips one on your heart

as we say together: "Glory to You, O Lord".

At the end of the Gospel respond - "Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ".

Ask everyone to be seated.

Lead a Discussion on the Gospel

Use open questions to encourage discussion and allow the children to say what they have understood from the Word of God.

What? Where? How? Why?

Optional

Dependent on time constraints you may include three or four bidding prayers (preprepared by CL Leaders or ask the children who or what they would like to pray for)

"Lord, In Your mercy" - all respond - "Hear our prayer"

Again, depending on the time available there may be a poster or activity/ picture to colour to take away. Use the relevant CL resource for ideas and again this would be pre-prepared by the CL leaders. Some resources have sheets which can be photocopied with pictures for colouring. Any activity undertaken must highlight and reinforce the Gospel message and should not be a distraction from it.

Closing Prayer

There are options for this for each date in the relevant CL resource book or you may compose your own prayer relevant to the day's Gospel.

Amen

Select 4 volunteers for the Offertory Procession.

Those not in the procession should quietly return to sit with their family or guardian after the gifts have been presented to the Priest.